

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 FEA-02 DRC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

INT-08 /193 W

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R 241239Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7898

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR SP

SUBJECT: EFFECT OF ENERGY SITUATION ON AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION AND TRADE

REF STATE 5278

1. AVAILABLE DATA FOR SPAIN'S FERTILIZER PRODUCTION AND
TRADE INCLUDING OUR ESTIMATES FOR 1973 FOLLOW (IN 1,000
METRIC TONS):

	1971	1972	1973(EST.)
PRODUCTION	1,650	1,776	1,900
IMPORTS	307	414	375
EXPORTS	544	496	475
APPARENT			

CONSUMPTION	1,413	1,694	1,800
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DATA ON A NUTRIENT BASIS NOT AVAILABLE BUT A BREAKDOWN
OF THE 1972 PRODUCTION FIGURE BY TYPE SHOWS: IN 1,000 METRIC
TONS):

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NITROGEN BASE 674

PHOSPHATES 577

POTASH 524

NITROGEN AND PHOSPHATE HAVE ACCOUNTED FOR ALL OF INCREASES IN RECENT YEARS AS POTASH OUTPUT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY STABLE. SPAIN EXPORTS A SUBSTANTIAL SHARE OF ITS POTASH OUTPUT. IMPORTS ARE PRIMARILY NITROGEN BASED FERTILIZERS.

2. SUPPLY SITUATION FOR 1974 CROPS NOT YET CLEAR.

THERE WERE REPORTS OF SCARCITIES AND SOME HOARDING FOR FALL SEEDED GRAINS BUT EARLIER FEARS APPEAR TO HAVE SUBSIDED AND FARMERS IN SOME AREAS REPORT THEY ARE NOW RECEIVING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES ON A TIMELY BASIS FOR SPRING SEEDING.

ASSUMING NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN CURRENT SITUATION WE BELIEVE BOTH SUPPLIES AND PRODUCTION CAPACITY ADEQUATE TO MEET INCREASED DEMANDS FORECAST FOR 1974. AMONG MAJOR CROPS, AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE ESTIMATES THAT GRAIN ACREAGE WILL EXPAND ABOUT 5 PERCENT AND COTTON ACREAGE WILL INCREASE 15-20 PERCENT IN 1974.

3. INDEX OF PRICES PAID BY FARMERS FOR FERTILIZERS IN AUG 1973 (LATEST AVAILABLE) WAS 125.2 (1964 EQUALS 100), UP 7 PERCENT FROM YEAR EARLIER. INCREASE IN 1974 LIKELY TO BE HIGHER.

4. GNP IN 1972 WAS 2,960 BILLION PESETAS (AT CURRENT PRICES) AND ESTIMATED AT 3,550 BILLION IN 1973. DUE IN PART TO ENERGY CRISIS RATE OF INCREASE IN 1974 FORECAST AT AROUND 4 PERCENT, ABOUT HALF THE LEVEL OF PAST TWO YEARS (SEE MADRID 0414).
RIVERO

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Message Attributes

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